

The East Central Neighbor

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"The Way Things Ought To Be Everywhere"

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A Talk With Three Community Treasures

It was the 'Neighbors' distinct pleasure to spend an hour or so this week with Mr. Earl Herndon and his wife Elva. When we met they were just returning from lunch celebrating Mr. Earls 89th birthday. Elva is 85. A neighbor of the Herndons suggested that we pay them a visit because of the history of their home. It was amazing to learn that Elva has lived in this home all of her life. *All 85 years.* In fact, the house has been in the same family since it was built in 1850! A record for Jackson County, I understand. It was built by Elva's great, great grandfather. Originally, the kitchen was separated from the rest of the house, as was the custom back then in case the kitchen caught fire. Wooden pegs held much of it together.

The huge live oak was planted there by her grandmother when she was eight year old - in 1870.

The tin on the rear part of the house was put on 65 years ago - the same year that Earl and Elva were married.

Earl was born & raised about 3/4 mile down the road from where they live now. He worked for the Corps. of Engineers from 1926 to 1946 then drove a dozer for the county from 1946 till 1975. Mr. Earl was not a job hopper.

Elva has been attending the same church all her life - the Salem Methodist Church. She still makes flower arrangements for the church each Sunday.

